





The circulation of the Daily Press is larger than that of any other daily in the city.

TERMS.—\$8.00 a year in advance, or \$1.00 at the end of the year.

THE CHESAPEAKE AT CHESTER, N. S.

Her Probable Detention by the Authorities.

The Collector of the port—Ex-Gov. Washburn—received a special dispatch early last evening, from the Vice Consul at Halifax, N. S., and requesting that the Captain or Mate of the steamer should proceed there forthwith to identify the pirates.

Chester is about twenty-five miles from Halifax, at the head of Mahone Bay. Capt. Willits being absent at New York, and the Mate confined with his wounds, the Stewardess—a very intelligent white woman—and one of the late crew of the Chesapeake were put on board the U. S. steam gunboat Acacia, Capt. Stone, which left for Halifax direct at about ten o'clock in the evening. The dispatch, and particularly the request for parties to proceed there, justifies the impression that the vessel is in the hands of the authorities, and the hope that speedy justice is about to overtake the guilty.

Emancipation Meeting.

Last evening quite a large number of gentlemen met at the Aldermen's Room, pursuant to notice in the papers, to inaugurate proper steps to secure an appropriate observance of the first of January, the first anniversary of the issue of the great philanthropic and humanitarian proclamation of Emancipation. The meeting was called to order by N. A. Foster, Esq., on whose motion T. C. HERSEY, Esq., was called to the chair. A. E. STEVENS, Esq., was chosen Secretary.

Remarks were made, appropriate to the occasion, by Rev. Mr. Stebbins, H. Goddard, J. C. Woodman, C. A. Stackpole, Geo. W. Woodman and the Chairman.

On motion, a committee consisting of J. T. Gilman, Rev. H. Stebbins and N. A. Foster, was appointed, to nominate a committee of seven, to be constituted a Committee of Arrangements, who subsequently reported the following gentlemen for the committee, to wit: CHARLES A. STACKPOLE, SAMUEL E. SPRING, ISRAEL WASHBURN, JR., JACOB McLELLAN, A. E. STEVENS, THOMAS R. HAYES, REV. GEO. W. BOSWORTH.

It was voted, with the usual subject of the observance of the approaching anniversary to this committee, with instructions to make up an appropriate programme, and to perfect all necessary arrangements, making the same public as early as practicable. The Committee was also authorized to fill vacancies in their board, and to enlarge their numbers if they shall deem it expedient to do so. The Committee is an able and an active one, and we dare say they will project a plan worthy of the occasion.

The Maine State Agency and the Sanitary Commission.

OFFICE OF THE SOLDIERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION, 273 F. St., Washington, D. C., Dec. 10, 1863.

Dear Sir—It has been gratifying to notice the various liberal gifts in our State, within the past few weeks, to the U. S. Sanitary Commission. While other local agencies have their own peculiar duties and uses, this great Pioneer of supply, is not to be forgotten. If one wishes to get rid of any surplus or feeling of rivalry, let him take a nearer view of the work in the field and hospitals. My first experience with the Commission, was at the great battle-field of Antietam. There was a promptness and system about the work which no reasonable person could criticize; and the usefulness of it can be told by the thousands who receive the benefit. It is very agreeable at the present date, to meet Surgeons and soldiers, who gratefully allude to those scenes.

The kindly, social influences upon the character of the soldiers, cannot be spoken of in a brief note. A good soldier is not likely to have more favors than he needs and deserves; and if he gets less, let him not charge it to want of heart among the people at home.

The Maine Soldiers' Relief Association long since gave their endorsement to the Commission. Yours, very respectfully,

L. WATSON, Maine State Agent.

FREEDMEN'S RELIEF MEETING.—Mr. Chaplain Fisher who is to address our citizens tomorrow evening on the condition of the freedmen on the lower Mississippi, and to make an appeal in their behalf, is the same gentleman who, a few evenings since, spoke in the Old South Church, Boston, and presented the case so clearly that even Geo. S. Hillard—a "conservative" of the Boston Courier school—was constrained to endorse the appeal, and to make an eloquent address in aid of Mr. Fisher's mission. We mention this fact solely to show that it is no political scheme that Mr. P. seeks to further, but a work of philanthropy which appeals to the heart of every man. It is no fault of the negroes in that region that they are in distress; it is not the proclamation that has thrown them in our way, so much as the progress of the war and the successes of our victorious arms. As our troops extended their outposts, the slave owners fled in thousands of instances, leaving all behind them. The able-bodied men among the people thus freed, we have put into our armies, thus depriving the helpless classes of the aid they might otherwise derive from them. In the mean time we contract new obligations; to see that in their new freedom the poor creatures do not suffer burdens from which they were measurably free in slavery. Now is their transition state. Philanthropy must do the work now that will easily be accomplished without such aid when the war shall be over and business begins to find its legitimate channels. The people who poured out their substance to feed the starving Irish, will not be deaf to appeals for the unfortunate of their own land.

BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—H. Packard has received the following books for the young folks, besides a large assortment of gift books not comprised in this list: Herbert or Tim Charity, Lessons from Insect Life, Rose the Little Comforter, Polly Garg's Jewels, Henry Roberts, or Incidents of the War, Plants, &c.

Mr. Augustus Robinson, at 51 Exchange street, has received a great variety of books for the holidays, among which are "Mr. Wind and Madam Rain," beautifully illustrated, and the boyhood of Martin Luther, and the great German Reformer, by Henry Mayhew, one of the best books in the market for boys.

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THE MARKETS.

Portland Wholesale Prices Current.

Expressly corrected for the Press to Dec. 16, by Mr. M. N. RICH.

Table with multiple columns listing various goods (Lumber, Flour, etc.) and their prices. Includes sub-sections for Portland Dry Goods Market and Portland Wholesale Prices Current.

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COAL & WOOD.

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Table with multiple columns listing coal and wood prices (Cumberland Coal, etc.) and their suppliers.

HOTELS.

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Table with multiple columns listing hotels (Mount Cutler House, The Elm House, etc.) and their locations.